

Appl. No. 09/980,155
Amdt. Dated 11/18/03
Reply to office Action of Aug. 28, 2003

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph entitled "CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" with the following rewritten paragraph:

-CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Applicants claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of German Application No. 199 24 435.9, filed on May 28, 1999. Applicants also claim priority under 35 U.S.C. ~~§365 §120~~ of PCT/EP00/04589, filed on May 20, 2000. The international application under PCT article 21(2) was not published in English.--

Please replace the abstract with the rewritten abstract attached as Attachment A.